

# America's Hotels Are Staying Responsible

From waste reduction and water conservation to energy efficiency and responsible sourcing, our members are working to provide employees, guests, and communities a [responsible stay](#).

**83%**  
of travelers believe sustainable travel is an important issue<sup>1</sup>

**81%**  
of travelers say they want to stay in a sustainable accommodation in the coming year<sup>1</sup>



## Water Conservation

Safe and efficient water practices at our hotels save millions of gallons of water each year.

- With laundry accounting for **16 percent** of a hotel's water usage, linen and towel reuse programs can help save water and energy.<sup>2</sup>
- High-performing water-using equipment like toilets, showerheads, and faucets often use at least **20 percent** less water than standard models.<sup>2</sup>
- Water-smart landscapes, irrigation systems, and efficient pool maintenance ensure we're using less water in our buildings – both on the inside and out.



## Waste Reduction

We're keeping food waste, single use plastics, and other trash out of America's landfills.

- Hotels participating in AHLA and WWF's [Hotel Kitchen](#) program saw reductions of up to **38 percent** of food waste in just 12 weeks.<sup>3</sup>
- Recycling programs and partnerships with local community composting programs reduce the amount of waste that would end up in landfills.
- Many of our hotels are reducing the use of plastic products and replacing them with more environmentally friendly options.
- Working with hotel partners, Clean the World has distributed nearly **70 million** bars of recycled hotel soap in more than **120 countries**.<sup>4</sup>



## Energy Efficiency

Our hotels are finding ways large and small to significantly reduce energy usage.

- Energy usage per square meter among all full-service hotels analyzed by The Center for Hospitality Research is down **3.69%** overall on average in just 5 years.<sup>5</sup>
- Smart-energy sensors help reduce energy use throughout many of our hotels by automatically turning off lights and regulating heating and air conditioning systems.
- Solar panels and geothermal heating and cooling systems help some of our members lower their carbon footprint and reduce the use of energy generated from fossil fuels.
- Swapping out traditional incandescent bulbs with energy-efficient alternatives like LEDs use at least **75 percent** less energy and last up to **25 times longer**.<sup>6</sup>



## Responsible Sourcing

We're making a positive environmental and social impact through our purchasing power.

- We're committed to reducing emissions related to our purchased goods and services, including the emissions generated from their manufacturing, transportation, storage, usage, and disposal.
- From purchasing eco-friendly cleaning supplies to sourcing farm to table food for our hotel restaurants, we know we can make our supply chains more responsible.
- By diversifying our suppliers and collaborating with those that are also committed to environmental sustainability, we are selecting suppliers that are responsible while also striving to source more sustainable products.

America's Hotels are **innovating, adapting** and **working** to give guests the **"responsible stay"** they're looking for...

1.3 billion guests stay in American hotels every year<sup>7</sup>, and hotels reinvest in communities across the country while creating millions of jobs, boosting local economies, and supporting local charities. Nearly a third of hotel guests say they're willing to pay more for their room if they know their stay is sustainable. America's hotels have a great responsibility—and a great opportunity—to lead on environmental sustainability.

**We are working together to sustain our planet, strengthen the future of our communities, and grow opportunity for all in the hospitality industry.**

RESPONSIBLESTAY.ORG



1. <https://globalnews.booking.com/booking-coms-2021-sustainable-travel-report-affirms-potential-watershed-moment-for-industry-and-consumers/>

2. <https://www.epa.gov/sites/default/files/2017-01/document/s/us-commercial-factsheet-hotels.pdf>

3. <https://hotelkitchen.org/about-toolkit/>

4. <https://www.nytimes.com/2022/05/17/travel/clean-the-world-hotel-soap.html>

5. <https://ecommons.cornell.edu/handle/1813/109990>

6. <https://www.energy.gov/energysaver/led-lighting#:~:text=LED%20s%20are%20highly%20energy%20efficient,more%20than%20incandescent%20lighting>

7. <https://www.ahla.com/our-industry>